Isaku Natsume's

AMEIRO PARADOX DROP

Chapter 3

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夏目イサク

Isaku NATSUME

鉛色パラドックス

ディアプラス コミックス

AMEIRO PARADOX 3

NATSUME ISAKU

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SHINSHOKAN

Onoe and Kaburagi have been dating for a year when their editing department hires a rookie named Kasai. Onoe's joy over finally becoming a senpai is eclipsed when Kasai only sees him as a rival. Kasai goes so far as to declare that he will take Kaburagi, who is known for his proficiency in finding scoops.

The much anticipated return of our favorite quarreling couple!

ISAKU たつめ・いさく NATSUME

PROFILE

DOB July 30th. Leo. Blood Type O.

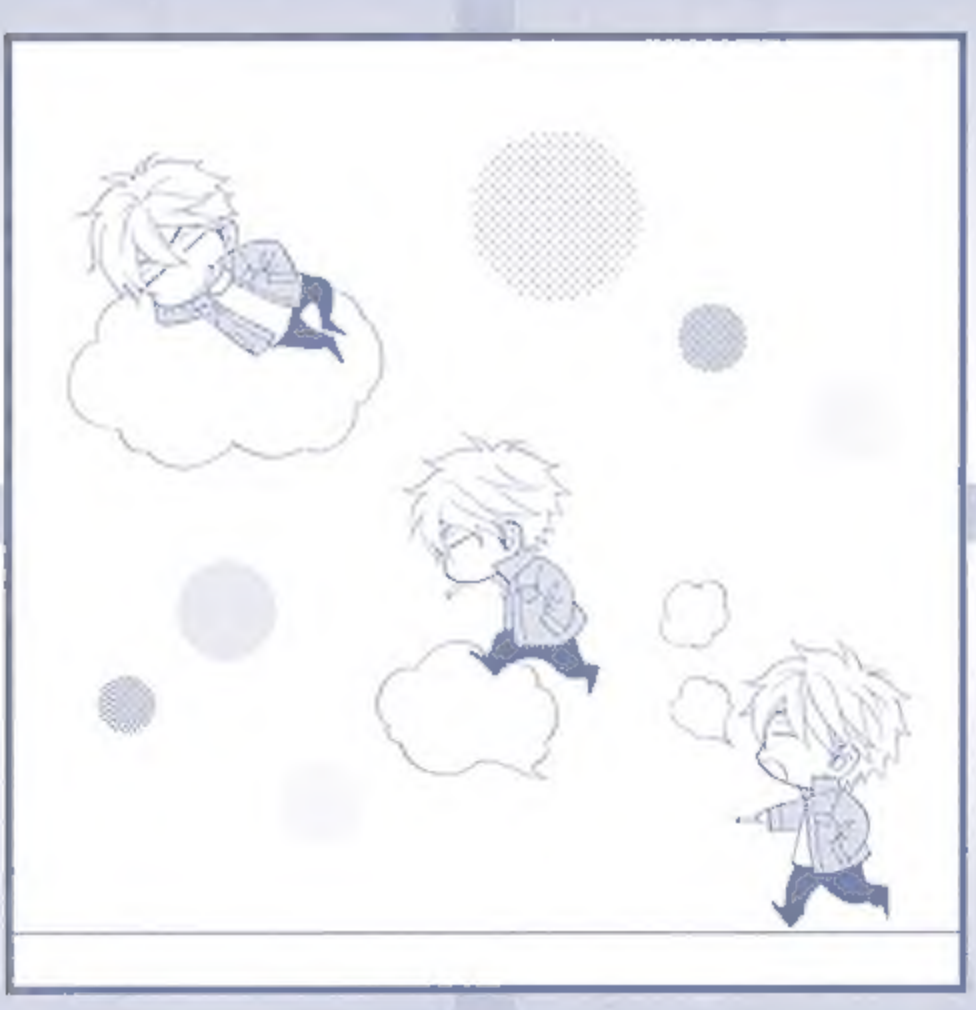
Hobbies... Read, Travel.

Favorite Food... White Rice.

Favorite Color: Green.

Current Beloved Item...Dogs.

ISAKU なつめ・いさく NATSUME



Dear+COMICS446/SHINSHOKAN

AMEIRO PARADOX 3

ISAKU NATSUME PRESENTS

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AMEIRO PARADOX 3

ISAKU NATSUME PRESENTS

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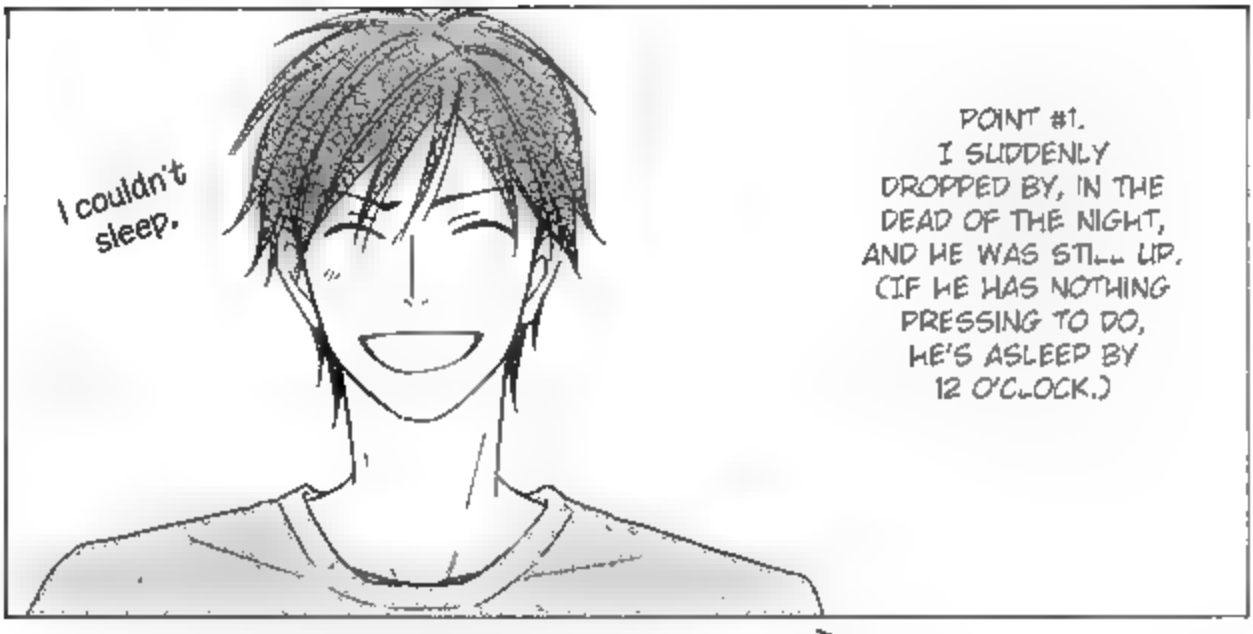
Drop.
03

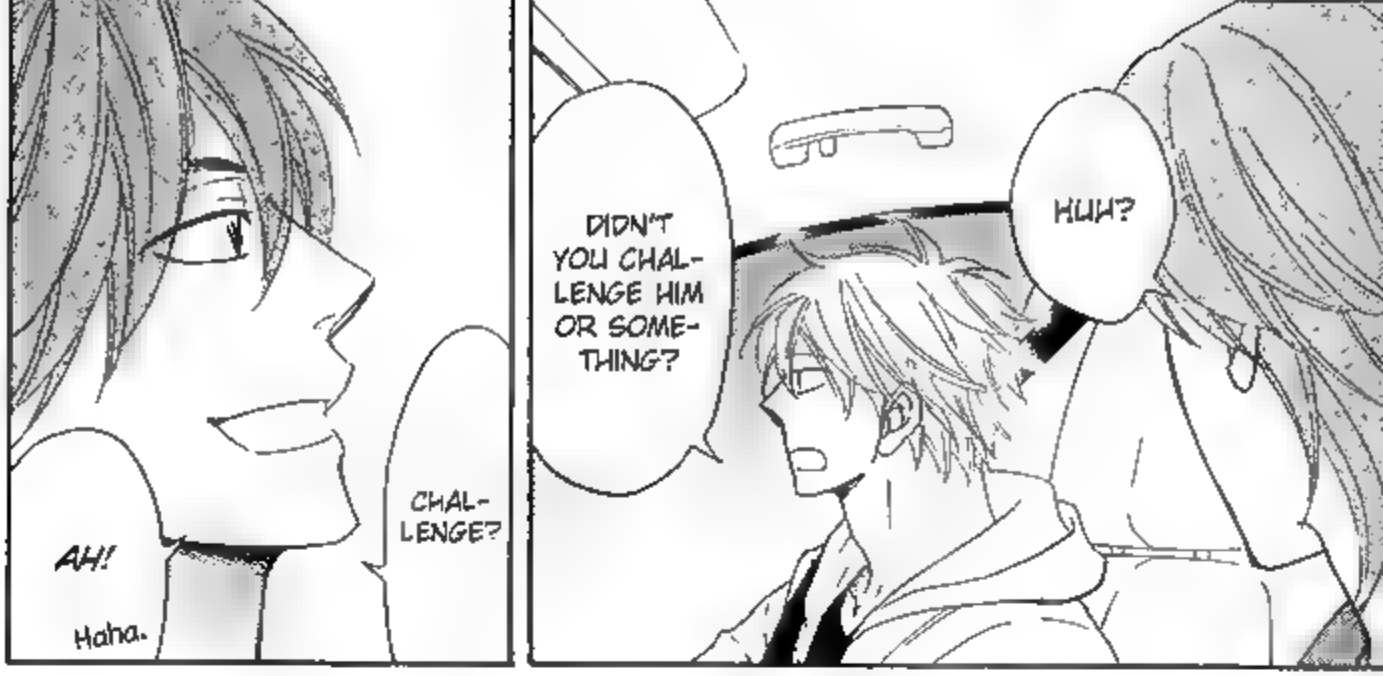
THERE'S SOMETHING OFF ABOUT ONOE


I couldn't sleep.
POINT #1.
I SUDDENLY DROPPED BY, IN THE DEAD OF THE NIGHT, AND HE WAS STILL UP. (IF HE HAS NOTHING PRESSING TO DO, HE'S ASLEEP BY 12 O'CLOCK.)

BEEP BEEP BEEP
WAH!
Sorry!
POINT #2.
I WOKE UP TO FIND HIM CUDDLING ME (IT'S USUALLY THE OTHER WAY AROUND.)
It's all right.
Nothing to apologize for

KABURAGI-SAN, WE GOT A TIP-OFF!
It's just as we thought.
ALL BECAUSE OF THIS GUY
AH. WELL DONE.
NOTHING COMPARED TO WHAT KABURAGI-SAN CAN DO.
RIGHT.
She was happy enough to spill the beans herself.
IT WAS NOTHING. I JUST KNOW MY WAY AROUND WOMEN LIKE HER.
NAH.
SLAM

I GUESS...
ONOE-SAN'S NOT TOO GOOD AT THESE KINDS OF JOBS, RIGHT?
FROM THE START, KASAI KEPT FISHING FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE DAYS WHEN ONOE WAS MY PARTNER.
When you guys were working together, how did you split up the work?
Please enlighten me!
I picked the content and stuff like that
I see.
SAY, YOU'RE PRETTY FIXATED ON HIM, AREN'T YOU?
IT REALLY BOTHERS ME.


AH!
Haha.
CHAL-LENGE?
DIDN'T YOU CHAL-LENGE HIM OR SOME-THING?
HUH?

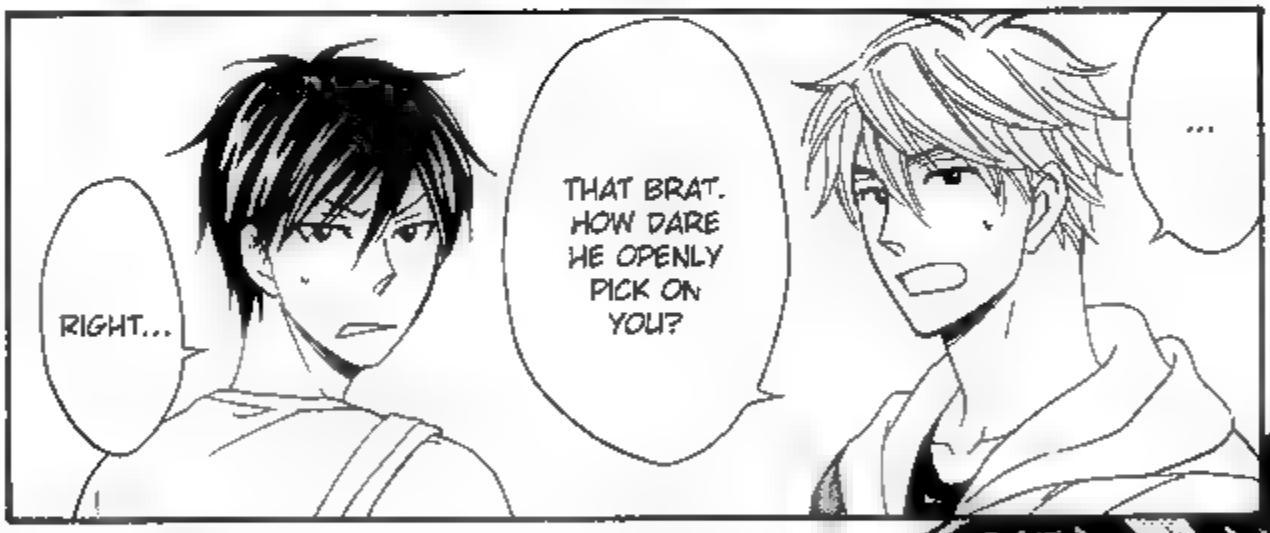
I ADMIRE HIM A LOT.
AT MY PREVIOUS JOB, I OFTEN FOLLOWED DASH'S EXCLUSIVES, MOST OF WHICH WERE WRITTEN BY ONOE-SAN
OF COURSE NOT.
Who did you hear that from?

THAT GUY WOULDN'T HAVE GLARED AT YOU IF YOUR SENTIMENTS WERE REALLY THAT INNOCENT.
Otherwise, he would have gloated to me already
OH.
SO WHEN I FINALLY MET HIM, I TOLD HIM I WON'T LOSE TO HIM.

I'M USED TO IT AND HAVE NO PROBLEM DEALING WITH THEM
SHINKANSHA
BUT IT'S STRESSFUL FOR ONOE.
So what exactly did she say?
Oh, that she would meet up with Nagata.
THANKS!
KEEP IT UP, THEN.
WHAT A LOAD OF BULL.
THIS INDUSTRY IS FULL OF PEOPLE INVADING OTHERS' PRIVACY, ALL WHILE KEEPING SMILES PLASTERED ON THEIR FACES.
All right.
I want to grab something from the vending machine.
Head in first.
YO, ONOE-SAN.
KASAI, ABOUT THIS-

WHAT? IT'S YOU AGAIN!
I went out! I just came back!
Or did you get to do some fieldwork?
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HARD. SO? GOT ANY-THING TODAY?
Were you stuck at your desk again?
Aww, don't say that.
So stop harping about it! So annoying! GO AWAY!
Well? What did you get?
Nothing!
!
KASAI.
HE BUGS ME.
What the hell is he doing?

I'll go now.
OKAY. GOT IT!
The thing I showed you before.
TAKE THIS TO ACCOUNTING FOR ME.


RIGHT...
THAT BRAT. HOW DARE HE OPENLY PICK ON YOU?
...

I KNOW...
JUST IGNORE HIM. HE'LL QUIT IT IF YOU STOP COMPETING WITH HIM.
Sigh

...IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIMING AND LUCK.
I CAN'T EVEN RESPOND WITH A COMEBACK.
BUT I DID COME BACK EMPTY-HANDED TODAY.
ARE YOU...
SO ...
SHOT
Coming over tonight...?

..
WHAT DOES HE MEAN BY THAT?! DOES HE WANT ME OVER? HOW INSECURE CAN HE BE? THIS IS TOO RARE!
TONIGHT, HUH? LET'S SEE...
stare
Oh
CAN'T... WE JUST GOT AN AWESOME LEAD, AND WE HAVE TO STAKE OUT...
. THEN I'M GOING TO STOP BY MASAYAN'S PLACE FOR A BIT...
freeze
Only to eat!
I KNOW, I KNOW. I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, DID I?
Go.

POOR MASAYAN'S GOING TO HAVE TO ENDURE A DRUNKARD'S DRUNKEN RANT.
I'm not going to do that!
SURE YOU WON'T.
I'll go home before it comes to that!
WE'LL HAVE TO SEE.
...
Later I have to find Kuchi-san.
Kaburagi-san!
I'm baaack!
Tch
DAMN YOU.
What?
Why?
NOTHING.

SHIT.
I'LL FIN SH SHOWING HIM THE ROPES AND BE DONE WITH THIS STUPID BABYSITTING JOB.

SHINKANSHA
YOU TWO...
KASAI, CAN YOU GET IT DONE BY TOMORROW MORNING?
GOOD ALL THAT'S LEFT IS THE ARTICLE.
NO PROB-B-LEM! I'll get on it now!
UNDER-STOOD.
PUT THIS ON OUR COVER INSTEAD.
THE FACT THAT THE OTHER PARTY IS A MODEL MAKES THE IMPACT EVEN GREATER.
THANKS
A scandal on celebrity Nagata Jr.!
BEAUTIFUL WORK GETTING YOUR HANDS ON THIS!!!

This is the first scandal ever surrounding Nagata Jr
YOU TWO ARE UNSTOPPABLE! TWO WEEKS, AND YOU GET TWO COVER-WORTHY HEADLINES.
WE GOT LUCKY.
THIS COVER WAS ALL THANKS TO KASAI'S CONNECTIONS.
IS THAT SO!
HAH. FINALLY OVER AND DONE.
Hey, excellent work, kiddo!
Thank you.
TIME TO GO HOME...
NAH. I'LL JUST HEAD OVER TO ONOE'S HAVEN'T SEEN HIM ALL DAY.
CRACK
HMM?
ONOE...
?!
hug

STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
OI, ONOE.
WHAT'RE YOU RUNNING OFF FOR?
WHAT!
I'M NOT RUNNING AWAY!
I HAVE URGENT STUFF TO DO, THAT'S ALL!
STEP
STEP
STEP
!!!
STEP
STEP
STEP
DON'T BOTHER WASTING YOUR ENERGY.
THERE'S NOT MUCH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN YOUR RUNNING AND WALKING SPEED.
WHAT'S KEEPING YOU AT THE OFFICE SO LATE?
Did you mess something up?
Gasp
Pant

AND YOU GUYS GOT ANOTHER SCOOP
THAT'S RIGHT
CONGRATU-LATIONS.
THAT'S GREAT GOOD FOR YOU! WONDERFUL PARTNERSHIP!
...I BET KASAI RUNS PRETTY FAST.
?!
WE-LL, YEAH, HE DOES.
What are you talking about?
HAH...?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU LOOKED REALLY EXCITED
SO I CONGRATU-LATED YOU! IS THAT SO WEIRD?
ONCE ..

You're showing symptoms common amongst people who've been pulling allnighters.
HUH?!
WOOZY
ARE YOU SLEEP-DEPRIVED?
Stagger

TWO DAYS?!
No big deal
NOPE...
I JUST DIDN'T SLEEP FOR TWO DAYS.

BUT
AND DID RESEARCHING FOR TWO DAYS STRAIGHT EVEN GET YOU ANY-WHERE?!
-RE-SEARCHING.
(For News.)
WERE YOU ON A STAKE-OUT?
FOR WHAT?

...
I DIDN'T WANT TO FALL BEHIND.
YOU TWO ARE AWESOME TOGETHER.
Don't mix up the order
YOU ONLY STAKE OUT WHEN YOU HAVE SOURCES AND RELIABLE INFORMATION ON HAND.
SKIPPING SLEEP ISN'T GOING TO GET YOU ANY STORIES.
...LISTEN.
I'm a reporter, but I can't even argue back
BUT WITH A MUSHY BRAIN, YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO HANG ON TO A LEAD EVEN IF IT WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOUR FACE.
YOU'VE ALWAYS DONE MORE THAN YOU'RE ASKED TO. I'M SURE YOU OVERWORKED YOURSELF TODAY TOO.
RATIONALIZING

...THAT'S EASY TO SAY..
YOU'RE GOOD AT INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM. PEOPLE IN THE OFFICE RECOGNIZE THAT AND BENEFIT FROM IT. ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?
EVERY-ONE HAS THEIR OWN STRENGTHS AND WEAK-NESSES.
Moan
Groan
BUT I STILL DON'T WANT TO LOSE TO KASAI!
THE OTHER STUFF CAN WAIT.
ANYWAY, FIRST THINGS FIRST GO SLEEP.
BUT TO BE CLEAR,
WHEN YOU SAID HE MADE A GOOD PARTNER,
AND I LOOKED EXCITED OVER LANDING THAT SCOOP,
THAT'S BECAUSE I WAS RELIEVED THAT I WON'T BE STUCK TRAINING HIM ANYMORE.

WAIT FOR ME.
. SORRY...
I'LL DRIVE YOU BACK.
I'm staying over, by the way
STOP THOSE RASH ASSUMPTIONS.
SHUT UP! YOU CAN'T EVEN WALK STRAIGHT!
BUT I-
I CAME ALL THE WAY HERE ALREADY. IF I DON'T FIND ANYTHING OF USE, I WON'T BE ABLE TO SLEEP IN PEACE!
I'M SERIOUS... I ENDURED PAST THE DROWSINESS, AND NOW I'M NOT SLEEPY ANYMORE.
TAKE A BATH AND YOU'LL FEEL THE URGE AGAIN.
I BATHED IN THE MORNING, THOUGH...
To wake myself up.
When I came back the first time
SO?!
SLAM

...
CAN'T SLEEP.
Tucked in
EH?! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
?!
SERIOUSLY... THEN LET'S DO IT THIS WAY.
I'LL HELP YOU PULL ONE OFF
SO YOU CAN RELAX AND FALL ASLEEP.
Lift

WAIT!
It's okay!
I'm not in the mood to!
IT'S ALL RIGHT JUST LIE BACK.
I'LL MAKE IT GOOD.
NO, I'M FINE!
Wait
Ah.

Ahh
Haa

Ah!
Pant
Pant
Pant
Mm
Nggnn
mm
LICK
AH!
Thrust

Haa
Haa
.....!
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
DONE IN TEN MINUTES...
Fuu
Ha
Snore
Snoore

Snore
SO CLUMSY...
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
Fwump

refreshed

...
THANKS FOR LAST NIGHT.

YOU WERE AWAKE?!
AND YOU! TALKING ABOUT SUCH THINGS FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!
THEN USE YOUR MOUTH TO RETURN THE FAVOR.
Mm.

ANYWAY,
I'LL DO MY BEST WITH THE WRITE-UP, SO PLEASE LET ME STAKE OUT THERE ON MY OWN!
EH? ARE YOU SURE?
YES! I CAN DO IT!
I had a good night's rest. I'm in top condition!
All right. Have at it, then.
Thank you!
HE'S NOT BEATEN DOWN AT ALL...

ameiro paradox